THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) As per the provisions of Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1979, vaccines, single ingredient branded vitamin formulations and a number of the cough syrups were under price control.

(b) As per the provisions of Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1987; vaccines, single ingredient branded vitamin formulations and some of the cough syrups are decontrolled.

(c) No, Sir, no instance of price increase by 2000 per cent of the referred formulation has come to the notice of the Government.

(d) As sales turnover is not monitored, the required details for major brand products are not available.

Price Control on Imported Drugs

1415. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the objective to expand the price decontrol basket of drugs was to boost indigenous production;

(b) if so, the number of imported drugs which are under price control of DPCO, 1987 along with name of each;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the imported bulk drugs which were under price control under DPCO, 1979 have been exempted from price control under DPCO, 1987, and

(d) if so, the number and names of imported drugs which have been price decontrolled?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The overall objectives set forth in the Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Industry in India announced in December, 1986 are:

(i) To make the price control system less combersome but more effective by reducing the span of control.

(ii) To stimulate production of drugs and Pharmaceuticals which are essential to the needs of large majority of the people of the country.

(iii) To ensure reasonable return to producers of essential drugs while at the same time restricting undue increase in their prices.

(iv) To ensure adequate availability at reasonable prices of essential drugs to all sections of the community, especially weaker ones even in remote areas.

(b) to (d) The details of drugs under price control are given in Schedule I to III of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1987 irrespective of the fact that they are imported or produced indigenously.

Recovery of Unintended Benefit

1416. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 113 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th April, 1988 and state:

(a) what was the total number of drug companies which went to various courts against the price fixation orders of the Government under DPCO, 1978;

(b) in how many cases, the courts upheld the prices and gave directions for the recovery of unintended benefit along with the names of the companies; and

(c) the names of the companies in whose favour amounts have been worked out along with the amount due in each case?